

## THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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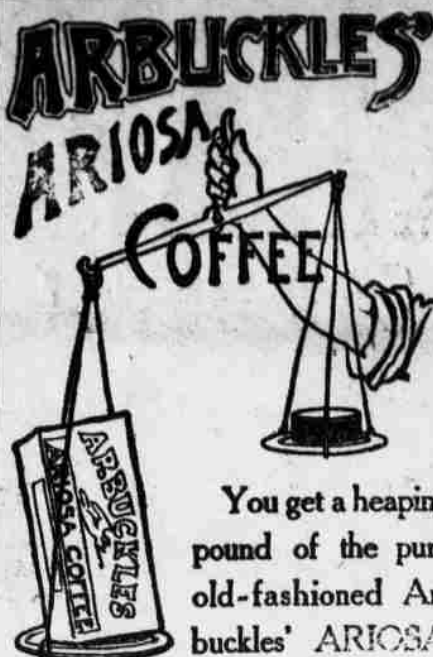
SATURDAY, NOV. 17, 1906.

### WASHINGTON LETTER.

Our Regular Correspondent Writes From the National Capitol.

There has been such a shake up in both cabinet and diplomatic circles in the past few weeks that when society reassembles for the winter season it will be almost impossible to know "where it is at," or to recognize Washington in view of all of the changes that have been made. The cabinet changes that were slated from the White House a week or more ago have now been succeeded by the announcement that Secretary Hitchcock will retire, Attorney General Moody will be given a place on the supreme bench, vice Associate Justice Brown, and that "Jimmy" Garfield will enter the cabinet as secretary of the interior.

In addition to this, Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador, will retire. His successor has not yet been named, but during the interim a new counselor of embassy will be appointed in the person of E. W. Howard, until recently British consul general at Crete. The chances are that the British ambassador will be succeeded by Lord Curzon, whose wife, Miss Mary Leiter, of Washington, died only a few weeks ago. Lord Curzon is very well known in Washington, as indeed he is in nearly every quarter of the world, and is on his way to this city now. He has had a varied experience in British diplomatic service, has been the rounds of all the principal embassies in Europe in every capacity from secretary to minister, and wound up an eventful chapter of his career by serving a term and a half as viceroy of India. It was while he was in that position that he had his now memorable row with General Kitchener which resulted in his resignation because he was not willing to allow General Kitchener, as the head of the military department in India, to run the whole of the Indian Empire without regard to the civil administration. Lord Curzon is known in this country, of course, principally as the husband of Mary Leiter. It would be an injustice, however, to a very able man to deny him any other title to fame. He was under secretary to the foreign office during Lord Salisbury's premiership and has traveled all over Asia and has written three very able books on Asiatic travels and the Central Asian question. He is rich in his own right and was made richer through his American marriage. He has led a particularly clean personal exist-



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ence and furnishes one of the few examples wherein an American girl did not make a mistake in marrying a foreign nobleman.

After his return to England from India he was made warden of the cinque ports as an indication that the British government, while not supporting him in his quarrel with Lord Kitchener, still held him in very high esteem. If he comes to Washington as ambassador, he will have the advantage of being in very close touch with all the questions in controversy between this country and Great Britain and he will add essentially to the social life of Washington.

The retirement of Secretary Hitchcock from the interior department was not at all unexpected. He has held the position for eight years, ever since his return from Russia, where he was American ambassador. He has worked very hard in the department, and it was not his fault that there have been more unsavory scandals in connection with land office matters during his incumbency than have ever been discovered before in the incumbency of one secretary. Mr. Hitchcock has not been an approachable man while in the department, and there is a question whether any secretary could retire from the cabinet with a more hearty approval from the newspaper correspondents who were thrown in contact with him. One contact of this sort was usually sufficient for any of them. At the same time, nobody has ever questioned the fact that he was absolutely honest and a tremendously hard worker, and it

has in all probability been due to this honesty that so many of the land frauds that have been cryptic for almost a generation have been uncovered and prosecuted.

His successor, "Jimmy" Garfield will have the distinction of being the youngest cabinet officer under President Roosevelt, and one of the youngest that ever sat at the cabinet table. Next to him in point of youth comes Postmaster General Cortelyou. Mr. Garfield is rich in his own right, and is one of the coterie of young men, including A. W. Cooley, Assistant Secretary Lawrence Murray and Gifford Pinchot, who are very close personally to the president and who constitute the famous lawn-tennis board, that is supposed to aid him in his political deliberations. Mr. Garfield has been commissioner of corporations and has not made any serious mistakes during his administration, and his course as a cabinet member will be watched with considerable interest by his friends.

President Roosevelt's departure for Panama this week marks the first occasion on which a president of the United States has gone off our mainland during his term of office. Technically, Panama is not outside of the United States, but the president will leave the shelter of the American flag during one portion of his trip when he dines with the president of the republic of Panama. He is now on his way to the Canal Zone aboard the battleship Louisiana. She is convoyed by the cruisers Tennessee and Washington, which will remain in her company during the whole of the sea trip. The party will go south through the old Bahama passage between Hayti and Cuba, arriving at Colon, on the north side of the isthmus, November 15. They will spend three days inspecting the Canal Zone, and leaving there on the 18th will return to the United States by way of Porto Rico, stopping for a look at San Juan. They will leave there November 23 and are due back in Washington on the 27th. Every arrangement has been made on board the Louisiana for the president's personal comfort, and the battleship will be in wireless communication with some one of the American wireless stations during the whole of her cruise. These messages will be relayed to Washington, so that the president will be kept constantly in touch with the White House. Secretary Root will act for him in official capacity while he is gone.

One of the most remarkable refunds that has ever been made to the United States treasury came in the shape of a check this week from Representative Pollard, of Nebraska, who was made an ad interim appointee to congress and who has just been reelected. He was given a salary check for \$1,861.61, during a time when he had not been serving, and as some question

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had been raised during his campaign for reelection over his right to this money, he promptly turned it into the treasury and thereby secured at least \$100,000 worth of advertising at the expense of \$1,861.61 worth of salary. The joke of it is that now that the government has received the money back it does not know what to do with it because the action is entirely unprecedented and there is a question to what fund it should be deposited. The war department is looking anxiously for news from Wyoming, where the latest Indian war has been raging on paper with very little bloodshed for over two weeks. The campaign has so far fallen largely to the credit of the Indians, and while there may be a serious outcome in the shape of one or two sharp fights, the older officers of the department cannot help smiling at the way the Utes have so far outgeneraled the regular troops sent against them.

### A Year of Blood.

The year 1903 will long be remembered in the home of F. N. Tacket, of Alliance, Ky., as a year of blood, which flowed so copiously from Mr. Tacket's lungs that death seemed very near. He writes: "Severe bleeding from the lungs and a frightful cough had brought me to death's door, when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, with the astonishing result that after taking four bottles I was completely restored and, as time has proven, permanently cured." Guaranteed for sore lungs, coughs and colds at W. R. Barton's drug store. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

### Commercial Congress.

There will be a galaxy of oratorical stars of the first magnitude at Kansas City next week. The 17th annual session of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress will open in the great Convention Hall there on Tuesday, 20th inst., for a four days session and will be attended by some of the most prominent business men and eminent statesmen of the western country.

The commercial congress is composed of delegates from the commercial organizations throughout the twenty-four western states and territories and nearly two thousand delegates are expected to attend.

Among the noted speakers will be Secretary of State Elihu Root, Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, Secretary of the Treasury Leslie M. Shaw, E. H. Harriman, President Union Pacific Ry.

Co., Senator Wm. J. Stone, Hon. John Barrett, Minister to Panama, and David R. Francis, of St. Louis.

In addition to the foregoing, a number of western governors and senators and representatives in congress will participate in the proceedings.

The sessions will be held in Convention Hall and will be open to the public. This meeting will be the most important business gathering of business men in the United States this year. The officers of the commercial congress are D. R. Francis, president; Fred W. Fleming, chairman executive committee; H. D. Loveland, San Francisco, vice president; Theo. B. Wilcox, Oregon, chairman congressional committee; H. B. Topping, treasurer, and A. F. Francis, secretary.

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